# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**LS 7021 NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 8, 2007

BILL NUMBER: HB 1208 BILL AMENDED:

**SUBJECT:** Tuition and Fee Remission for Veterans.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Micon

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State

DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill exempts certain veterans from all tuition and fees at state educational institutions. The bill makes an appropriation.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill exempts veterans who listed Indiana as their residence when they enlisted and suffered service connected disability or served after September 10, 2001 and before the conclusion of the war on terror from all tuition and fees at state educational institutions.

As of 2005 there were about 46,078 Indiana disabled veterans receiving compensation. It is also estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 persons have served in the military since September 10, 2001. A maximum of about 76,000 individual might qualify for the benefit but the number of eligible veterans would annually increase by probably 5,000 to 6,000 until the war on terror ends. It is unknown how many veterans would take advantage of this new program.

SSAC might require some additional resources to administer the program.

The bill annually appropriates sufficient money from the State General Fund to carry out the purposes of the bill.

*Background Information:* This program is similar to the fee remission program the State Student Assistance Commission, "SSAC", administers for children and spouses of certain disabled or deceased veterans. For FY 2006, 5,063 individuals participated in the fee remission program and the average cost to the state was

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\$3,1967 per student. SSAC projects the cost to increase by about 6% per year. The per student cost in the bill would be less since the cost is reduced by any program under federal law, National Guard Tuition Supplement Program, or other sources.

For every 1% of the eligible veterans attending a state educational institution under this new program with the average fee remission for FY 2008 of \$3,390, the total amount of fee remissions be about \$2.6 M statewide.

#### **Explanation of State Revenues:**

## **Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

### **Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** State Student Assistance Commission, State Universities and Colleges.

### **Local Agencies Affected:**

<u>Information Sources:</u> State Student Assistance Commission budget submission, Tom Applegate from Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs.

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